IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Nally et al.

Serial No.: To be assigned Filed: Concurrently herewith

For: METHODS, SYSTEMS AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCTS FOR

CONTROLLING VARIABLES ASSOCIATED WITH TRANSACTIONS IN A

MULTIPLE TRANSACTION ENVIRONMENT

Date: February 14, 2002

BOX PATENT APPLICATION Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicants submit the present Preliminary Amendment to cancel claims which are in condition for allowance in the parent application. Applicants have provided a copy of the amendments showing the changes entitled "VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES" which is attached hereto.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1 of the application, please add the following section after the Title:

Related Applications

The present application is a continuation of, and claims priority from, United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/223,254, filed December 30, 1998 and entitled METHODS, SYSTEMS AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCTS FOR CONTROLLING VARIABLES ASSOCIATED WITH TRANSACTIONS IN A MULTIPLE TRANSACTION ENVIRONMENT, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference as if set forth fully herein.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 29 with the following:

The present invention may also be utilized in systems such as those described in commonly assigned United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/001,980, entitled TECHNIQUE FOR MANAGING OBJECTS WHICH ARE THE TARGET OF MULTIPLE

In re: Nally et al.

Serial No.: To be assigned Filed: Concurrently herewith

Page 2 of 4

TRANSACTIONS IN A CLIENT/SERVER ENVIRONMENT filed December 31, 1997, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein as if set forth fully. However, the present invention may be utilized in other systems and should not be construed as limited to any particular system.

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 2-5, 7, 8, 10-13, 15, 16, 18-21, 23 and 24.

In re: Nally et al.

Serial No.: To be assigned Filed: Concurrently herewith

Page 3 of 4

REMARKS

It is submitted that this application is now in condition for substantive examination, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. O'Sullivan Registration No. 35,632

Customer Number:

20792

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

Express Mail Label No. EV015663394US

Date of Deposit: February 14, 2002

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: BOX PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Traci A. Brown

In re: Nally et al.

Serial No.: To be assigned Filed: Concurrently herewith

Page 4 of 4

VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 29 with the following:

The present invention may also be utilized in systems such as those described in commonly assigned United States Patent Application Serial No. [08]09/001,980, entitled TECHNIQUE FOR MANAGING OBJECTS WHICH ARE THE TARGET OF MULTIPLE TRANSACTIONS IN A CLIENT/SERVER ENVIRONMENT filed December 31, 1997, [and concurrently filed and commonly assigned United States Patent Application Serial Nos.

______ and _____ entitled TECHNIQUE FOR MANAGING ASSOCIATIONS

BETWEEN ENTERPRISE JAVABEANS™ WHICH ARE THE TARGET OF MULTIPLE

CONCURRENT AND/OR NESTED TRANSACTIONS and TECHNIQUE FOR MANAGING

ENTERPRISE JAVABEANS™ WHICH ARE THE TARGET OF MULTIPLE CONCURRENT

AND/OR NESTED TRANSACTIONS, respectively, the disclosures]the disclosure of which [are]is incorporated herein as if set forth fully. However, the present invention may be utilized in other systems and should not be construed as limited to any particular system.